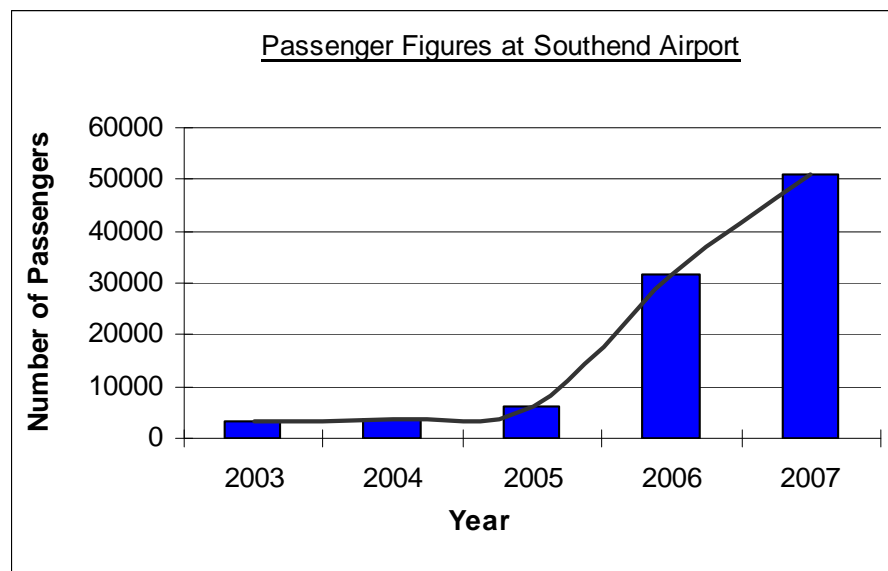


PRESS RELEASE

23rd January 2008

Continued passenger growth at Southend Airport

Passenger numbers continue to rise at Southend Airport. Statistics for 2007 show a 61% passenger growth compared to 2006, confirming sustained growth over the last 5 years. This is due to high demand for flights to Jersey, continued growth in business aviation and an increase in aircraft that divert into Southend. Further growth is expected this year as Flybe start their second weekly service Jersey in May and regular flights to Le Touquet take-off in March. This growth has led to staff numbers at the airport increasing by 35% in 2007. Commenting on this, managing director Alastair Welch said “whilst 2007 has been a good year for the airport, we have a far bigger role to play in the region and we look forward to building on this current success in 2008.”



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